

TRUST IN TROUBLE.

**Cotton Oil Combination Seems
to Have Struck a Snag.**

PROFITS ARE A MILLION SHORT

Of the Estimates Made by the Officers of
the Corporation.

THE CONCERN IS TO BE REORGANIZED.

**A Lively Dialogue Between Some of the Members at
the Annual Meeting.**

The American Cotton Oil Trust meeting
yesterday was a lively one in some particu-

profits were \$1,000,000 short of the previous estimates. After a discussion upon the subject of watered stock it was decided to reorganize the corporation.

NEW YORK, November 1.—The annual meeting of the American Cotton Oil Trust was held to-day. President J. H. Flagler

At the close of the report, when a motion was made for its adoption, one of the certificate holders asked if it would be printed for their benefit to which Mr. Wlaser re-

the report being seen by all the certificate holders, there was great objection to its being made public generally. It would put facts and figures into the possession of business rivals which could not be perilled.

THE FIRST SQUALL.

Now came the first sign of trouble. F. H. Donner, one of the certificate holders, rose with a printed paper in his hand, and asked if he understood rightly that the profits for the fiscal year were \$1,000,000. Mr. Flagg

Then Mr. Bonner wanted to know why the trustee had said in the last circular that the profits of the year would be \$2,000,000. Where had the money gone? Mr. Plagler attempted to explain, but before he had concluded, another shareholder wanted to know if the statement in the circular that the cash and cash assets of the company were \$7,000,000, was not also \$1,000,000 too much.

General Thomas, a trustee, now took up the business of explaining. He said that

He was one of the trustees, but he had done as other trustees and directors in railroad companies had usually done, he had attended meetings and listened to reports. What had gone on in one car had gone out of

General Thomas said that when he had investigated the affairs of this Cotton Oil Trust he had found that the men who had been officially conducting the business had been buying a good deal of oil from rival companies when the price was up, and had been obliged to sell out at less than they

Another thing which contributed to the loss was the poor quality of the last year's cottonseed crop. They had kept this fact secret for a number of reasons, but it was a fact, and might as well come out, that for some reason the oil had been of so poor a quality that money did not come in for it as had been expected in the estimates. He

General Thomas—So did I. I acknowledge that I bought at a high price, and I am willing to take my medicine with the rest.

American Cotton Oil Trust be merged into the American Cotton Oil Company, and has a committee be appointed to consider the plans and arrangements for the purpose of report at an adjourned meeting of the certificate holders.

A certificate holder—Is the plan all ready?

General Thomas—You will have the right to decide the whole thing when it comes before you again.

POISONED BY EATING CHEESE.
Dozen People Taken With Severe Cramps
and Intense Suffering.

CARBONDALE, November 1.—Over a dozen residents of Forest City, a mining village six miles north of Carbondale, have been poisoned this week by eating cheese. The first person who felt the effects of the cheese was taken with cramps about three hours after eating it. The case was a puzzling one, and the physicians did not know how to account for the sudden illness. In other cases, with similar symptoms, were

ated by violent vomiting, then racked the system of the patient furiously, and caused the most intense suffering. An investigation traced the source of the trouble to cheese bought of a local dealer. Pieces of the cheese have been subjected to examination, but nothing has been detected in it that would prove injurious qualities, either in the flavor or ingredients, and the physicians are certain, from the coincidences of the cases, that this is the cause

ly, and they are thought to be recovering slowly, though several were for a time thought to be in a critical condition.

TRAIN WRECKERS AT WORK.

Every Car but One Leaves the Truck, and Flows through the Sand.

BIG RAPIDS, MICH., November 1.—A startling attempt was made early this morning to wreck a Grand Rapids and In-

ton had been pried up and blocked a foot
ore the track. The train encountered the
struction when running at full speed
d every car with the exception of
 baggage car left the track and plowed
 distance through the sand.
The passengers were badly shaken up,
 fortunately no one was seriously hurt.
 Though many suffered slight bruises. Of
 ficers are in search of the perpetrators of the
 tragedy.